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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/51/L.8)]

51/20. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,[1]

Recalling the decision of the Council of the League of Arab States that it considers the League a regional organization within the meaning of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[2] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[3]

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[1] A/51/380 and Add.1

[2] A/47/277-S/24111.

[3] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

Convinced that the maintenance and further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States contribute to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Convinced also of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources to promote common objectives of the two organizations,

Recognizing the need for closer cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in realizing the goals and objectives of both organizations,

Welcoming the second meeting on cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, held on 15 and 16 February 1996,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. Commends the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including the last meeting held at Vienna in 1995;

4. Requests the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

6. Calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(a) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(b) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies

concerned regarding projects and programmes, in order to facilitate their implementation;

(c) To associate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(d) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 15 June 1997, of the progress of their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in particular the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

7. Also calls upon the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to intensify cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the following priority sectors, namely, energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational training, technology, environment, and information and documentation;

8. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation of, and follow-up action on, multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

9. Decides that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should take place once every two years, and inter-agency sectoral meetings should be organized regularly on areas of priority and wide importance in the development of the Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the counterpart programmes of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

10. Recommends that the next general meeting on cooperation between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations be held during 1997;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

60th plenary meeting
19 November 1996